

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 63

Introduced by Senator Bates

**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Block, Fuller, Hall, Hertzberg,
Hill, Huff, Leyva, Liu, Nguyen, Pavley, and Vidak)**

May 14, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 63—Relative to National Stroke Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 63, as amended, Bates. National Stroke Awareness Month.

This measure would declare the month of May 2015 as National Stroke Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Stroke is the leading cause of serious long-term
2 disability and the ~~fourth~~ *fifth* leading cause of death in California,
3 killing about 130,000 people nationwide and approximately 13,500
4 citizens of California each year; and
5 WHEREAS, Strokes cost the nation \$34 billion annually,
6 including the cost of health care services, medications, and lost
7 productivity; and
8 WHEREAS, Nearly 80 million Americans have high blood
9 pressure, which is a major controllable risk factor for stroke,
10 including ~~45~~ *44* percent of black ~~adults~~ *among adults*—among the
11 highest prevalence of any population in the world; and
12 WHEREAS, Nearly ~~60~~ *58* percent of Americans do not know
13 if they are at risk for a stroke, and one in three Americans cannot
14 name any of the signs or symptoms of a stroke; and

1 WHEREAS, The *F.A.S.T.* warning signs and symptoms of stroke
2 include *face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, and time*
3 *to call 9-1-1; and beyond F.A.S.T., additional stroke warning signs*
4 *and symptoms include sudden* numbness or weakness of the face,
5 arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body; *sudden* confusion;
6 *sudden* trouble speaking or difficulty understanding; *sudden* trouble
7 seeing in one or both eyes; *sudden* trouble walking; *sudden*
8 dizziness; *sudden* loss of balance ~~and~~ or coordination; and *sudden*
9 severe headache with no known cause; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association urges people to
11 lower their risk of heart disease and stroke by focusing on “Life’s
12 Simple 7” key health factors and behaviors: managing blood
13 pressure, controlling cholesterol, reducing blood sugar, getting
14 active, eating better, losing weight, and stopping smoking; and

15 WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed
16 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes,
17 but much more research is needed; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares the month of
20 May 2015 as National Stroke Awareness Month in California; and
21 be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges all Californians to
23 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke,
24 to recognize the warning signs and symptoms of stroke, and, at
25 the first signs of a stroke, to dial 9-1-1 immediately in order to
26 begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population;
27 and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
29 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.